LITERARY NEWS, VIEWS AND CRITICISM

NEW BOOKS.

A Story of Interest.

Erica was beautiful, and she had moreover those peculiar powers which sometimes assist beauty in making itself irresistible. Mrs. Henry de la Pasture proves this in her story of "The Honorable Mrs. Garry" (E. P. Dutton and Company). It is very skilful and effective description that we find here. Erica controlled her large and meltingly emotional mother with a beautifully firm hand. Lady Clow, the ponderous and gelatinous mother in question, had some natural doubts as to whether it was kind, or even whether it was wise, for her daughter to throw over Christopher Thorverton, who was rich and most generous (the ladies were in possession of his jewels and pensions), in favor of Tom Garry, who was indeed the eldest son of Lord Erriff of Kellacombe and a soldier of fine mind and appearance, but a pauper in comparison with Christopher.

The decision of Erica upon the point makes an exceedingly interesting illustration of her character. She plied her mother with strong salts in the railway train. She adjusted her bonnet and soothed her. "Oh, my baby! My darling!" sobbed Lady Clow. "Look here, mamma," said Erica, "you mustn't give way and spoil everything." She held the salts to her mother's reddened and quivering nose. The silver flask in which they were contained was a present from Christopher. She said authoritatively to her sinking parent: "We are almost there now, and you haven't got to go through with anything. You simply collect the luggage and drive straight home and wait for us while Tom and I go off together in a hansom to his parish church and get married. Then we'll lunch together somewhere and come and call for my luggage and incidentally get your blessing." All was done precisely as Erica specified. Tom's chambers, where the couple went to live, were beautiful. They were the property of Lord Finguar, who had had them furnished sumptuously by a professional decorator. Poor Lord Finguar had intended to marry an actress, but she had disappointed him at the last moment and he had rented them to Tom and gone off to the Rocky Mountains to shoot big game. The shooting of big game is a recommended and doubtless a great solace for the troubled heart. Poor Lady Clow lived rather shabbily on a pension provided by the discarded Christopher. Her daughter after she had married Tom kept her at a distance, communicated with her very cautiously.

It is not to be doubted that Erica loved Tom. His ideas of honor commanded her admiration and disturbed her. She hated to give up the pearl necklace that she had received from Christopher. Her method of getting it back again was distinctly ingenious. Her clever reticence enabled her to retain always the tiara. To be sure it was a painful repression that compelled her to keep the tiara for a long period at the bottom of her trunk. Tom was rather cruelly alert in discovering her strong affection for all the jewels bestowed by Christopher. But she loved other jewels. She loved them for themselves and was capable of a sincere indifference in her regard for the donor.

The story tells admirably how Erica wavered between her love for the scrupulous Tom and her affection for material riches. It tells of the death of Christopher, whose vitality had been diminished by his habit of strong drink and who was attacked by pneumonia, and of the death of Tom, who was trampled by his pony in a polo game. Mr. Reinhardt, the banker, was richer than Christopher, richer than Lord Finguar, who had forgotten the actress and wished to marry the widow. Mr. Reinhardt had streets and avenues of jewels. He was a man of genius in many ways, an honorable and an interesting man. In another story, the third concerning Erica, we are told that we shall learn further regarding Mr. Reinhardt and this fascinating heroine. We shall look for the third story eagerly. If it is as good as the second we shall be well rewarded.

The Complete Gilbert Parker.

A further instalment of the handsome "Imperial" edition of "The Works of Gilbert Parker" comes to us from Charles Scribner's Sons, and now eight out of the projected eighteen volumes of the set are ready for the subscribers. The books are uniform in size, in binding and in attractive typographical dress with the subscription editions of Kipling, Stevenson, Meredith and Ibsen which the Scribners have already published.

The new volumes at hand are numbered from V. to VIII. Volume V., "Cumner's Son and Other South Sea Folk," is made up of short stories from the author's Australian experiences. Volume VI. contains "When Valmond Came to Pontiac" and "The Trail of the Sword"; Volume VII., "The Translation of a Savage," "The Pomp of the Lavilettes" and "At the Sign of the Eagle," and Volume VIII., "The Trespasser" and "The March of the White Guard." To each of the long stories Sir Gilbert Parker has prefixed a brief autobiographical introduction telling how he came to write the book and what he thinks of it. To those who like to have their favorite novelists in uniform editions this attractive set of books will be welcome.

Two Good Mystery Stories.

The difficulties in which a well intentioned young man may land, in endeavoring to carry out the dying wishes of an eccentric stranger, are described by Winthrop Alden in "The Lost Million" (Dodd, Mead and Company). If his inquisitiveness is at all reprehensible it is punished amply by the months of constant exertion that he and the reader must pass through. It is unfair to hint at the plot when the interest of the story depends wholly on its unravelling; we can only say that the author writes with great directness and simplicity, that he provides something startling in every chapter and never deviates into side paths and that he keeps his readers puzzled to the end. The story is extremely good of its kind and is well kept up; it is only in the last few pages that the author slackens in his work. There is little that can betray his identity; the automobile is used a good deal, but there are few books written nowadays in which it does not appear, and much familiarity is shown with the roads near Boston, on Long Island and in some parts of France. The detailed itineraries, in fact, are a flaw in the story. The use of the tarantula as an instrument of crime we have met with before. The book, however, is interesting in itself and few persons will bother about guessing who the author may be.

The expert detectives in Henry Kitchell Webster's "The Ghost Girl" (Appletons), which is a capital story of its kind, have appeared in previous stories by this author, as have some of the other people, but the tale is in no sense a "sequel." The possession of a sixth sense and uncommon sharpness of the usual ones in the amateur give him an unfair advantage over his policeman competitor. Their rivalry seems to give the comic relief for the story. The reader is puzzled by an extraordinary tangle at the start which seems to become more and more snarled as the story goes on; he is kept duly excited while the skein is loosened, but each pull seems rational till the final chapter is reached, in spite of the hero's remarkable intuitions. The final explanation may not be wholly adequate, when he recalls all that led to it, but that may be due to natural carelessness in the haste to end the story. There is more life in the people than is usual in mystery tales and the plot is ingenious.

Tales of American Life.

The connecting link for the short stories that Horace Annesley Vachell has put together in "Bunch Grass" (Hodder and Stoughton; George H. Doran Company) is that the people they tell of have to do, in one way or another, with a ranch belonging to two young Englishmen in the arid part of California. They are bright, readable tales, of general human interest, some perhaps peculiar to the locality, but most of them such as might have happened anywhere else; romances of the derelicts that drift past the ranch. There is something of Western life in them, but it is merely the setting; the stories are of people and pretty good ones they are.

In "Miss Jimmy" (Dana Estes and Company, Boston) Laura E. Richards is decidedly napping. Her New England village folk are turned into caricatures and excessive sentimentality spoils her simple tale. The skinflint druggist and his good looking, shiftless wife are amusing; the capable nurse who sets things right is worthy of better treatment, and Mrs. Richards cannot write otherwise than well, but her story seems to have escaped from old files of *Gleason's Pictorial* or the *Waverley Magazine*.

From the outset Mrs. Sarah P. McLean Greene has looked on the New England rustic with the amused eye of the summer visitor. She trusts to a fat from accurate memory for the pictures of those she makes use of in "Eversleeve" (Appletons), but these are preferable to the two susceptible middle aged spinsters, who are the heroines, and to the other city folk. A wholly uncalled for tragedy is splashed into the dull farce. Another hand that has lost its cunning.

Recent British Fiction.

In "The Declension of Henry D'Albiac," by V. Goldie (Frederick A. Stokes Company), we have not so much a tale as a glorification of the very modern woman. A singularly innocent young French nobleman, moving entirely in aristocratic circles and modelling himself on British form, rescues a militant suffragist who is trying to get arrested. She quickly converts him to her own advanced views, which include, besides woman's rights, the barbarity of sport, vegetarianism and socialism, and opens his eyes to the shallowness of the people with whom he associates. Moreover, when he has fallen in love with her, she convinces him that she does not care for him in that way and persuades him to continue under her instruction, as her friend. The tone is light and amusing, with occasional sudden streaks of impropriety, which seems to be the fashion now in England. The author is often bright, her caricatures are funny, the lovely cat to whom the youth is engaged is drawn with feminine malice and the quarrel between the two is artistic.

An elaborate historical romance of the last years of the Council of Constance, after John Huss had been disposed of, has been written by Paul Bertram in "The Fifth Trumpet" (John Lane Company). The author endeavors to give an impression of the times as he sees them, dwelling at great length on the immorality and the ignorance of the priesthood, on the avarice of the Church and on the oppression of common people. His hero is the mouthpiece for reprobation of all that is wrong; his heroine is a brilliant courtesan even more noble minded than he is. The others, high and low, are either weaklings or villains, the women are all corrupt. It is a very highly colored picture, embodying the conventional Protestant ideas of the beginnings of the Renaissance.

After writing two books of unusual power, that have attracted attention, W. B. Maxwell in "General Mallock's Shadow" (Appleton's), seems content to follow the maternal example in fiction. This is a mechanical sort of British tale, with a plot that is clumsily improbable and with few characters with whom the reader can feel any sympathy. The voluble Nonconformist minister who tries to do the right thing is the best and most original among them; the self-sacrificing doctor with his hopeless passion is at least human. The others are the humdrum puppets, of which the British public never tires.

Travel.

The beginning, at least, of an interesting little handbook will be found in Mrs. Aubery Le Blond's "The Old Gardens of Italy" (John Lane Company.) She has started to make a list of famous gardens, with descriptions and to give information as to how the traveller may be admitted to see them. Some of them are public places like the Boboli at Florence, the Borghese at Rome and the Royal Palace at Caserta; others have lost most of their characteristic features; for some she has to record that there is no admission. Her survey is chiefly of northern Italy, and even there notable omissions are apparent. She gives a brief history of each garden, and often a description which is supplemented by photographic views. With the material she has she may in time provide a guide that is tolerably complete for those who are interested in formal gardens.

A visit to Palestine, written in lively journalistic style and dwelling on many incidents of travel that a serious Bible pilgrim would be likely to pass over, has been described by Maude M. Holbach in "Bible Ways in Bible Lands" (Kegan Paul, Trench, Trubner and Company, London). While Scriptural quotations and allusions are plentiful the author has not a particularly religious turn of mind and her impressions are distinctly those of a modern woman. There are many interesting photographs, so that the book may prove useful in some ways to tourists in the Holy Land.

A good portion of "A Gentle Jehu in Japan," by Ethel L. McLean (Dodd, Mead and Company), is taken up with the account of the steamer voyages to and fro; the rest with the story of what the author saw in Japan and of the impressions she formed. Probably the book will interest her personal friends; there is little in it that will profit others. The book is illustrated with tinted photographs.

A new edition of "Baedeker's Northern Germany," the sixteenth in English, comes to us from Charles Scribner's Sons. As usual, it covers all Germany with the exception of Bavaria, Wurttemburg and Baden, on the one hand, and of the country bordering on the Rhine, on the other. The handbook has been brought up to date and improved. It would be worth while for the publishers to indicate in the preface what noticeable changes have been made from the last edition.

Historical.

In the hands of a Frenchman the subject treated by Dr. Ernest F. Henderson in "Symbol and Satire in the French Revolution" (G. P. Putnam's Sons), the pictorial commentary on events as they happened, might easily have been made entertaining. The author has brought together a number of contemporary pictures which he describes in his text, accompanying them with his views of the events. These are not very critical, for he seems to make the mistake of taking the latest writers on the period as the most authoritative. It is impossible for the picture or the stories they illustrate to be devoid of interest, but Dr. Henderson's solemn style comes as near accomplishing that feat as is possible.

Much livelier in style is the account of the French military standards written by Edward Fraser in "The War Drama of the Eagles" (E. P. Dutton and Company). The author manages to tell a good many anecdotes that the formal histories pass over; he is enthusiastic about his subject and cannot avoid, therefore, expressing admiration for the feats of Napoleon's regiments. His readers will accordingly discount the national bluster over the eagles taken by the British when Napoleon fell. It is an interesting book which will make the reader understand why the French worshipped Napoleon until the new critical school of historians arose.

The letters and diaries with which the editor, William S. Tyler, completes the "Recollections of the Civil War" by Mason Whiting Tyler (G. P. Putnam's Sons) will make the reader regret that the author advanced so far with the work as he did. The greater portion of the book was written in after life, when the author had consulted books and authorities, had revised his judgments and in his mature years had decided what to say and what to leave unsaid. It is in substance a criticism of men and operations, the kind of book of which there is a superabundance. The letters and diaries, on the other hand, which the editor was obliged to draw upon, are first hand evidence, written at the time, the living testimony of which we cannot have too much. It is to be hoped that if Mr. Tyler's family has more of them it will choose to publish them.

What has set loose the flood of books on the Borgia family we cannot tell, nor can we say how many of these have preceded John Fyvie's "The Story of the Borgias" (G. P. Putnam's Sons), within a year or two. He tells the story again, including rather incongruously that of St. Francis Borgia, with no broad historical point of view. He reverts to the old system of vilification, which is assuredly the more picturesque, instead of trying to explain either Alexander VI. or Cesar. He is also sceptical about the rehabilitation of Lucrezia. Those unacquainted with the misdeeds of the Borgias will find them related here fully; those who are may skip Mr. Fyvie's book without compunction.

Another book of reminiscences which would be better if it had been written at the time, and also if the author gave more facts about the women he praises, is Alexander Hunter's "The Women of the Debatable Land" (Cobden Publishing Company, Washington). The author tells many anecdotes of the body to which he belonged, the Black Horse Cavalry, and of Mosby's command, and also some stories of the behavior of the Southern women in the Virginia counties which were most ravaged by the war. We could wish for more of these, but the author limits himself usually to facts of which he was cognizant himself. The object of his book is to aid in erecting a monument to the Virginia women of war times.

Other Books.

An entertaining book, which is distinguished from the flood of stuff that is being printed about Japan by giving new and valuable information, is E. J. Harrison's "The Fighting Spirit of Japan" (T. Fisher Unwin; Charles Scribner's Sons). The author is a journalist who worked for an Anglo-Japanese newspaper for some years and saw a good deal of Japanese life. His interest in this volume is chiefly in athletics and more than half his book is devoted to explaining jiu-jitsu. As he takes up the psychological side of the art also, he is led to describe forms of occultism, religious belief and superstitions. He tells also of other forms of amusement, fencing and the theatre, and he winds up with an article on the woman question. His chapters are newspaper articles and not didactic essays; his observations may be hasty and his statements not always accurate, but it is good newspaper work. The author grasps the essentials, he has taken the trouble to understand his Japanese, and the side lights he throws on many matters in Japan are of greater importance than the contents of most of the solemn books on Japan of the last ten years and most of the impressions of travellers.

The subjects of the addresses and articles collected by Dr. Roswell Park in "The Evil Eye" (Richard G. Badger, Boston) are curious and interesting and must have stimulated his hearers to further research. The circumstances under which they were delivered, however, made them necessarily rather superficial popular sketches, which can add little to the knowledge of those specially interested. The evil eye, serpent worship, phallic symbols, Greek myths and Christianity, the Knights of St. John, Giordano Bruno, student life in the Middle Ages, the career of the army surgeon and the evolution of the surgeon are some of the topics of which Dr. Park treats. They testify to the varied character of his non-professional studies.

Man's inhumanity to woman is the theme of Jean Finot's "Problems of the Sexes" (G. P. Putnam's Sons), which Mary J. Safford translates. It is a brilliant, feminine plea, couched in a scientific vocabulary, for all that women demand and more. The author arranges and suppresses the facts of history so as to make them accord with feminist desires, and he so minimizes the distinctions of sex that have been established by scientific research as to leave the reader in doubt as to whether there is any difference. His forecast of the physiological future of woman is rather startling. The book will provide ammunition for the advocates of the cause of woman, while the glorification of the new woman will be grateful to their feelings.

In "Art Museums and Schools" (Charles Scribner's Sons) we find four lectures delivered to teachers last year at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, on how the museum collections may be made aids to instruction. Dr. Stockton Axson demonstrated the utility of museums in the study of English, Dr. Kenyon Cox in that of art, Dr. G. Stanley Hall in that of history and Dr. Oliver S. Tonks in that of the classics.

Little by little "The Encyclopædia of Draughts" by J. Alexander and J. A. Kear, Jr. (E. Mariborough and Company, London), is progresing. Vol. IV., a pamphlet of seventy-two pages, continues the openings, and in the next volume, which is promised soon, the problems will be taken up.

Books Received.

"Latin America." F. Garcia Calderon, translated by Bernard Miall. (T. Fisher Unwin; Charles Scribner's Sons.)

"The Letters of a Post Impressionist." Vincent Van Gogh. Houghton Mifflin Company.)

"The Romance of the Rothschilds." Ignatius Balla. (G. P. Putnam's Sons.)

"The Infancy of Animals." W. P. Pycraft. (Henry Holt and Sons.)

"The Life of a Spider." J. H. Fabre. (Dodd, Mead and Company.)

"The Life and Letters of William Cobbett in England and America," two volumes. Lewis Melville. (John Lane Company.)

"Little Cities of Italy." Andre Maurel, translated by Helen Gerard. (G. P. Putnam's Sons.)

"King John of Jingalo." Laurence Housman. (Henry Holt and Company.)

"Jezebel." Richard Pryce. (Houghton Mifflin Company.)

"The Burden of a Woman. Richard Pryce. (Houghton Mifflin Company.)

"The Hero of Herat." Maud Diver. (G. P. Putnam's Sons.)

"Come Back! Come Rope!" Robert Hugh Benson. (Dodd, Mead and Company.)

"Adnam's Orchard." Sarah Grand. (Appletons.)

"The Private Life of Henry Maitland." (Hodder and Stoughton. George H. Doran Company.)

"The Lee Shore." Ross Macauley. (Hodder and Stoughton. George H. Doran Company.)

"Ashes and Sparks." Percy White. (G. P. Putnam's Sons.)

"Ashes of Incense." (Mitchell Kennerley.)

"The Finger of Mr. Bee." Peter Blundell. (John Lane Company.)

"Pilgrims of the Plains." Kate A. Apling-ton. (F. G. Browne and Company, Chicago.)

"Wayside Lamps." (Longmans, Green and Company.)

"History of Modern Philosophy." A. W. Benn. (G. P. Putnam's Sons.)

"Starving America." Alfred W. McCann. (F. M. Barton, Cleveland.)

"The Diary of a Free Kindergarten." Eileen Hardy. (Houghton Mifflin Company.)

"Field Days in California." Bradford Torrey. (Houghton Mifflin Company.)

"Old Homes of New Americans." Francis E. Clark. (Houghton Mifflin Company.)

"A Wayfarer in China." Elizabeth Kendall. (Houghton Mifflin Company.)

"The Violet Book." A. and D. Allen Brown. (John Lane Company.)

"Socialism and Democracy in Europe." Samuel P. Orth, Ph. D. (Henry Holt and Company.)

"Socialism Summed Up." Morris Hillquit. (The H. K. Fly Company, New York.)

"The Family." Charles Franklin Thwing and Carrie F. Butler Thwing. (Lothrop, Lee and Shepard Company, Boston.)

"The Works of George Sylvester Viereck." 5 vols. (Moffat, Yard and Company.)

"Modern Etchings, Mezzotints and Dry-Points." Edited by Charles Holme. (John Lane Company.)

"The Land Where We Were Dreaming." Daniel Bedinger Lucas. (Richard G. Badger.)

"Yang Chu's Garden of Pleasure." (E. P. Dutton and Company.)

"The Influence of Baudelaire in France and England." G. Turquet-Milnes. E. P. Dutton and Company.)

"English Epic and Heroic Poetry." W. MacNeile Dixon. (J. M. Dent and Sons; E. P. Dutton and Company.)

"Irish Plays and Playwrights." Cornelius Weygandt. (Houghton Mifflin Company.)

"Psychology and Industrial Efficiency." Hugo Munsterberg. (Houghton Mifflin Company.)

"The Street of the Flute Player." H. de Vere Stacpoole. (Duffield and Company.)

"Wild Justice." Frances Claire. (Duffield and Company.)

"The Silver Dress." Mrs George Norman. (Duffield and Company.)

"The Wooing of Margaret Trevenna." Roy Meldrum. (Duffield and Company.)

"The Parasite." Helen Reimensnyder Martin. (J. B. Lippincott Company.)

"Sally Castleton, Southerner." Crittenden Marriott. (J. B. Lippincott Company.)

"Royal Auction Bridge." H. P. Clark. (Dodd, Mead and Company.)

"Lectures Upon the American Civil War." James Ford Rhodes. (Macmillans.)

"Social Religion." Scott Nearing, Ph. D. (Macmillans.)

"Poor, Dear Margaret Kirby." Kathleen Norris. (Macmillans.)

AUTHORS AND THEIR WORK.

Maria Thompson Daviess, who in her "The Melting of Molly" acquired the reputation for setting one of the best story book tables of popular fiction, has introduced more than a dozen "eating scenes" in her new novel, "Andrew the Glad."

Ida Vera Simonton, author of "Hell's Playground," which has just gone into its third edition, is in great demand as a lecturer for women's clubs. Miss Simonton is a regular staff lecturer for the Board of Education of New York and is considered an authority on the women and children of savage West Africa. She has recently lectured under the auspices of the Dorcas Club of Cleveland. Miss Simonton has just had her portrait painted for exhibition at the Carnegie Institute in Pittsburg.

Holman Day has just been promoted to a new dignity—that of rear admiral of the power boat division of the Portland Yacht Club. His boat, the Davy Jones, is a well known visitor along the coast of Maine and probably it was on one of its voyages that the owner ran across the original of the resourceful Cap'n Sprowl, whose deeds are related in "The Skipper and the Skipped." The scene of Mr. Day's last novel, "The Red Lane," is set inland on the Maine-New Brunswick boundary.

Miss Margaret Prescott Montague, author of "Linda," is an ardent worker among deaf children, especially in West Virginia, her native State. At present she is visiting in Boston, and the school paper published at one of the West Virginia State schools for deaf and blind children notes her absence and in speaking of how much she is missed says: "It is not often that one who is seldom in a school such as ours can so readily enter into the hearts and lives of all who are privileged to know her as does Miss Montague. Her feeling of interest is so genuine that all are made better by it, for it is mingled with that sympathy that comes from the head as well as from the heart."

John Fleming Wilson, the author of "The Man Who Came Back," was born some thirty odd years ago in Erie, Pa., educated at Princeton and took root finally on the Pacific coast. A brief seafaring experience determined him in his desire to write about the sea and the people of the sea, and to that end he spent the larger part of the last ten years travelling and living at sea. In the intervals he did newspaper work and before the San Francisco fire edited the *Argonaut* and afterward the *Pacific Monthly*. His first story was published twelve years ago, and since that time over 200 short stories of his and two novels have been published.

Emerson Hough, whose latest book is "John Rawn," is preparing to embark on an expedition into the Arctic circle early in the spring. Mr. Hough has made several trips to Alaska. He is a great lover of the trail and hunts and fishes in out of the way places more than half of the year.

Kate Langley Bosher, author of "Mary Cary," lectured at the Woman's Club in Richmond a few days ago on the subject of her trip through Russia. She said that it was the people that had interested her most, the contrast between the peasants and the magnificent cathedrals and palaces. Though wretchedly poor and often mentally dull, she found that they are a loving class and kind of heart.

S. H. Leeder, whose "Veiled Mysteries of Egypt" has just been announced by the Scribners, has lived intimately among the people of whom he writes. He wore the clothes of a sheik and visited here and there, often a guest of important men in different sections of the country.

Perley Poore Sheehan, author of "The Seer," which was brought out last fall by Moffatt, Yard & Co., is at work on another novel, which will be ready for publication late in the present year. Like his former novel, it will deal with the mystic element in human experience, but unlike "The Seer," it will deal with material rather than spiritual triumph. The scene is laid in Paris, where Mr. Sheehan is intimately acquainted, having resided there many years while in the foreign service of the New York *Herald* and the New York *Times*.

Having completed his new book, "The Amateur Gentleman," which is to be published on March 15, Jeffery Farnol is now at work at his home in Kent dramatizing "The Broad Highway." The latter book has just gone into a fifteenth printing, 140th thousand.

Mary Raymond Shipman Andrews, author of "The Marshal," is said to have one of the largest private collections of original French historical manuscripts in America.

Gene Stratton-Porter has added to her already large collection of birds an English sparrow which she has trained to do almost everything but talk. Miss Porter permits the bird to fly about her home at will and at night it returns to its cage of its own accord.

While employed as a police reporter on a San Francisco newspaper Will Irwin, author of "The Red Button," was assigned to a police station in the notorious Frisco Chinatown. He became very familiar with many of the most notorious characters who made the district their stamping ground and learned to speak "pidgin English," the patois of the natives, so fluently that he often obtained valuable information from them that aided the police in solving many of the Chinatown mysteries.

Lillian Whiting has gone abroad for the purpose of securing material at first hand for her next illustrated book, which will deal with Athens.

Miss Elizabeth Kendall, whose new book, "A Wayfarer in China," is announced for February by Houghton, Mifflin Co., has travelled widely and her Chinese trip, while unique, is by no means her first experience. Turkey and the adjacent countries are familiar ground to her and she unhesitatingly declares her sympathy for the much abused country of the Mohammedan. Most of the feeling against that nation is due, in her opinion, quite as much to the carefully prepared reports sent out to the newspapers from the subject nations as to any real indignities committed by the Turks.

The question regarding the American citizenship of Sun Yat Sen seems now to be settled by the two depositions which preface the new third edition of "Sun Yat Sen," the biography by James Cantlie. The first is his own deposition, attested by Secretary Atkinson of Hawaii, and the second is the Secretary's own certificate. While the author of this volume was under the impression that Dr. Sun was a native Chinese born in the Province of Kwangtung, this statement has now been disproved by such documentary evidence as would seem to remove all doubt.

Henry Otis Dwight, whose "Constantinople and its Problems" has been announced by the Revells, was born in Constantinople in the early '40s. His father, the Rev. H. G. O. Dwight, D. D., was one of the pioneer missionaries of the American board.

Roland G. Usher, author of "Pan-Germanism," soon to be published by Houghton, Mifflin Co., is a Harvard graduate and is at present in charge of the history department of Washington University, St. Louis. He is regarded as an authority on history and his recent articles on international politics have aroused much discussion and controversy.

Frederick Ferdinand Moore, whose "The Devil's Admiral" has been announced by Doubleday, Page & Co., was up to a short time ago a San Francisco man, but before that he was a wanderer on the face of the earth, having been sailor, cavalryman, scout, war correspondent and many other things. His wanderings led him into the Far East, and his book is a realistic picture of life in the China Seas. In following his various avocations Mr. Moore says he has visited every city in the United States and most of the countries of the globe. In conversation with a friend, however, he admitted that perhaps there was one place in the United States he had never been in—Medicine Hat, Mon.—but he is not quite sure that he may not have passed through there by train in the night sometime.

Because of the enormous number of manuscripts submitted for the recent Hodder & Stoughton $1,000 prize Rose Macauley had little expectation of winning. But not only did her novel, "The Lee Shore," capture the prize but the English critics confessedly contrary to custom were very kind to it. The author has lived much in Italy and portrays the more intimate side of Italian life, usually hidden to a stranger.

Instructed Henry James How to Write.

J. Henry Harper, author of "The House of Harper," happened to meet Henry James one evening at dinner in London. Noticing that he looked much annoyed, he sat down beside him as soon as the ladies rose, to inquire whether he was not feeling well. "Yes," replied James, "but I have had a very unsatisfactory time. The lady on my left at the table criticised my last novel, which she had just read, probably rushing through it during the day as she had been told that I was to sit next her at dinner. She found fault with me for construction of the plot and then proceeded to enlighten me as to how it should have been written. All of which was very irregular and unpleasant; so behold me hors de combat."

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